

**** Photo Advisory****

On May 16, H.E. Ambassador Elkanah Odembo hosted a reception to celebrate the Washington, D.C. screening of "The First Grader." The reception was attended by approximately 100 people from the think tank, academia, and diplomatic communities as well as Congressional and Executive Branch staff. The film's director, Justin Chadwick, producer, Richard Harding and star Naomi Harris also attended the reception. Ambassador Odembo spoke to the audience about the history of the film and the country's decision to make primary education free for all Kenyans. He also expressed his gratitude to the film's producer and director for choosing to film in Kenya.

Following the reception, the guests viewed the film and participated in a Q&A discussion with Chadwick, Harding and Harris. Notably, all three expressed their gratitude to the people of Kenya for their hospitality during the filming.

WHAT: Reception hosted by H.E. Ambassador Elkanah Odembo
Screening of "The First Grader"

WHO: H.E. Ambassador Elkanah Odembo
H.E. Cyrille Oguin, Ambassador of Benin
H.E. Steve Matenje, Ambassador of Malawi
Justin Chadwick, director of "The First Grader"
Naomie Harris, lead actress of "The First Grader"
Richard Harding, producer of "The First Grader"

WHEN: Monday, May 16, 2011
6:00 p.m.

WHERE: National Geographic Society
1600 M St., NW
Washington, DC 20036

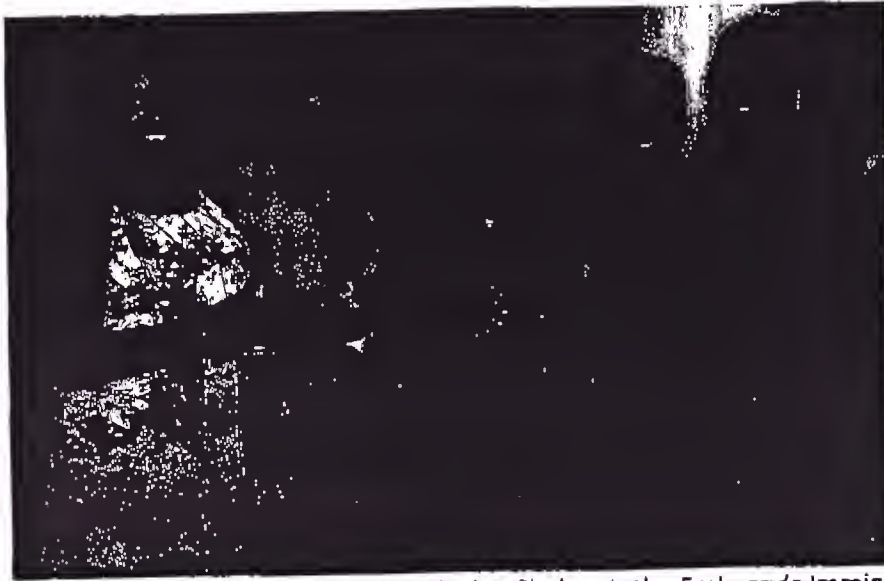
For high-resolution images of the photos below, please contact Anjali Reddy at (202) 777-3508 or areddy@clsdc.com.



Nikki Lowry, National Geographic Director of Film Marketing & Outreach, Ellen Stanley, National Geographic VP of Communications, Caroline Hall and Bill Newcott, AARP Movies for Grownups columnist and reviewer, enjoy the reception.



Director Justin Chadwick and lead actress Naomie Harris with Ambassador and Mrs. Odembo and producer Richard Harding.



Mrs. Odembo, center, spends times with guests Evelyn Cheluget, the Embassy's Immigration Attache and Ruth Malweyi, the wife of the Embassy's Defense Attache, and her daughters Marion and Maureen Malweyi.



Ambassador Odembo gives remarks as director Justin Chadwick, lead actress Naomie Harris and producer Richard Harding look on.



Ambassador Odembo poses with director Justin Chadwick, lead actress Naomie Harris, producer Richard Harding and children of the Embassy staff, including his son, Samson.



H.E. Cyrille Oguin, Ambassador of Benin and H.E. Steve Matenje, Ambassador of Malawi also attended the reception.



Guests fill the theater at the National Geographic Society to watch the D.C. screening of "The First Grader."

This material is distributed by Chlapak, Leonard, Schechter & Associates on behalf of the Office of the President of the Republic of Kenya. Additional information is available at the Department of Justice, Washington, DC.